

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 and 19-26 remain in this application. Claims 1-15 and 19-23 have been amended, new claims 24-26 have been added, claims 16-18 and 21-23 have been cancelled, and claims 9, 12 and 13 have been withdrawn from consideration.

The Examiner stated that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on March 29, 2002 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2). Applicant has filed with this response an information disclosure statement listing and including copies of Japanese Patents and Publications 11-159244, 11-286215, 6-173529, 2000-265743, 2000-248831 and their English Abstracts.

The Examiner has objected to the abstract. The abstract has been amended to overcome the Examiner's objections. The Examiner also stated that the title of the invention is not descriptive. Applicant has amended the title of the invention.

Claims 1-8, 10, 11 and 14-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite that the locating member includes the large diameter portion. The language "in form of" has been deleted from claim 2. Claim 6 has been amended to delete the language "parallel sided" and to claim that the threaded fixing portion includes parallel sides. The rejections have been overcome.

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Raptis (U.S. Patent No. 3,396,996). Raptis does not disclose an assembly including a door panel, a window regulator housing, and a window regulator motor. Raptis discloses a self-sealing bolt assembly including a bolt 10 that fastens plates 12, and 14 together. A nut 24 is tightened on the bolt 10 to secure the plates 12, 14 together. Raptis does not disclose that plates 12, 14 are a door panel, a window regulator housing, and a window regulator motor as claimed. Raptis does not anticipate the claims, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Raptis in view of Schult (U.S. Patent No. 4,928,531). The Examiner states that Schult discloses an assembly including a locating member 1 having two threaded ends 3 and 9 and a corresponding nut 5 and 25, and it would be obvious to provide Raptis with a doubled threaded construction because of Schult. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claim 4 is not obvious in view of the combination of Raptis and Schult. In Claim 4, the threaded fixing portion of the locating member engages the window regulator motor. Raptis discloses a bolt 10 that fastens together plates 12, 14, and Schult discloses a fastening device for the attaching of an electric transmitter. Neither reference discloses, suggests or teaches a door panel, a window regulator housing, and a window regulator motor as claimed, and therefore the combination of these references does not disclose, suggest or teach claim 4. The rejection is improper, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claims 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Raptis in view of Dobson (U.S. Patent No. 6,634,142). The Examiner states that Dobson discloses an assembly including a door panel 18, a window regulator mechanism 23, and a window regulator motor 20. The Examiner also states that Dobson discloses an assembly including a seal 40 for sealing between two components 18 and 24. The Examiner states it would have been obvious to provide Raptis with a door panel, a window regulator mechanism, and a window regulator motor, and therefore claims 16-18 are obvious. The Examiner also states it would have been obvious to provide Raptis with a seal, and therefore claim 15 is obvious. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claims 14-18 are not obvious in view of the combination of Raptis and Dobson. In Claim 1, the small diameter cylindrical portion of the locating member is located in the hole of the window regulator housing, and the door panel is located between the window regulator housing and the window regulator motor. The Examiner is calling the section 20 of the bolt 10 of Raptis the small portion. In Raptis, the section 20 of the bolt 10 is located in the panel 12, which is the middle component. That is, the panel 12 is between the panel 14 and the nut 24. If Raptis and Dobson were truly combined, the section 20 of the bolt would be received in the door panel, because it is the middle component. However, the claims require that the small diameter cylindrical portion is received in the window regulator housing, not the door panel. The combination of the references do not disclose, suggest or teach an assembly including a window regulator housing that receives a smaller diameter portion of a locating member as claimed in claims 14-18. Even if a seal was added to the combination, it would still not teach, suggest or disclose the claimed invention because neither reference discloses a small diameter cylindrical

portion of a locating member located in a hole of a window regulator housing. The rejection is improper, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Raptis. The Examiner admits that Raptis does not disclose a second locating member, but states it would be obvious to provide Raptis with more than one locating member. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claim 20 is not obvious in view of Raptis. In Claim 20, the assembly includes a door panel, a window regulator housing, a window regulator motor, and a second locating feature. Raptis discloses a bolt 10 that fastens together plates 12, 14. However, Raptis does not disclose or suggest employing a second bolt as claimed. Additionally, Raptis does not disclose, suggest or teach a door panel, a window regulator housing, and a window regulator motor as claimed, and there is no suggestion to employ these components in Raptis. The rejection is improper, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Raptis in view of Dahl (U.S. Patent No. 3,803,793). The Examiner states that Dahl discloses a locating member 17 having a tapered threaded fixing portion 21, and it would be to provide Raptis with a tapered threaded portion because of Dahl. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claim 7 is not obvious in view of the combination of Raptis and Dahl. In Claim 7, the threaded fixing portion is tapered. Raptis discloses a bolt 10 that fastens together the plates 12, 14, and Dahl discloses a bolt 17 that secures together workpieces 12, 14. Neither reference discloses, suggests or teaches a door panel, a window regulator housing, and a window regulator motor as claimed, and therefore the combination of these references does not disclose, suggest or teach claim 7. The rejection is improper, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Thus, claims 1-15, 19, 20 and 24-26 are in condition for allowance. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$198.00 (\$18.00 for one additional claim and \$180.00 for the Information Disclosure Statement). No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.

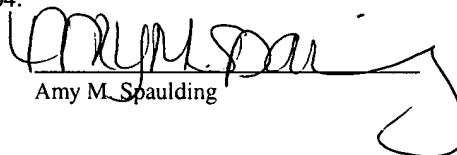


Karin H. Butchko
Registration No. 45,864
Attorneys for Applicant
400 West Maple Road, Suite 350
Birmingham, Michigan 48009
(248) 988-8360

Dated: January 30, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAIL

I hereby certify that the enclosed Response and Information Disclosure Statement is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 30, 2004.



Amy M. Spaulding

N:\clients\meritor\ip01251\patent\1251response.doc